

Appl. No. 10/783,826

Reply to Office Action of March, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 10 and 12-13 have been amended as set forth above. Claims 1-6, 8, 15-17 and 19 are withdrawn. Claims 7, 9, 14, 18 and 20 are cancelled. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Action rejected Claims 10, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Izumizawa et al. (U.S. 6,635,988 B1). Claim 14 is canceled. The § 102 rejection of Claim 14 is thus moot.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite that the moisture detector includes a material layer comprising metal formed between a first electrode and a second electrode, and the material layer between the first and second electrodes of the moisture detector has a resistance that varies with a moisture level of an environment in which the display device is located. The amendments to Claim 10 are supported by, for example, paragraphs [0020]-[0022] and FIGS. 3 and 4. No issue of new matter is raised.

Izumizawa fails to disclose or suggest that the moisture detector includes a material layer comprising metal formed between a first electrode and a second electrode. In Izumizawa, the moisture reaction layer 6 is formed over the anode 2 and cathode 3 as shown in FIGS. 1-8.

Further, Izumizawa fails to disclose or suggest that the material layer between the first and second electrodes of the moisture detector has a resistance that varies with a moisture level of an environment in which the display device is located. Izumizawa forms the moisture reaction layer 6 to immediately react with moisture to thereby effectively prevent intrusion of moisture into the organic electroluminescent (EL) device (Lines 1-16, Col. 2). In addition, the moisture reaction layer 6 in Izumizawa is formed over the anode and cathode 3, rather than formed between two electrodes. Thus, Izumizawa fails to disclose or suggest achieving this feature.

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Thus, Claim 10 is not anticipated by Izumizawa for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claim 13 depends from Claim 10 and, therefore, is not anticipated by Izumizawa for at least the same reasons set forth above.

The Action rejected Claims 10, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Izumizawa et al. (WO 00/60904). WO 00/60904 is the PCT application of U.S. 6,635,988 B1. Thus, Claims 10 and 13 are not anticipated by WO 00/60904 for at least the same reasons in connection with U.S. 6,635,988 B1.

The Action also rejected Claims 10, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. (J.P. 2003-157970). As set forth above, the features of canceled Claim 14 have been incorporated into Claim 10. Accordingly, Claim 10 is not anticipated by Kobayashi under §102(b).

Claims 11 and 12 depend from Claim 10 and, therefore, are not anticipated by Kobayashi for at least the same reasons set forth above.

Amended claims 12-13

Claims 12 and 13 have been amended to recite the features as set forth above. Supports for the amendments can be found in paragraph [0025] and [0020]-[0021], respectively. No new matter is added.

Newly added claims 21-25

Claims 21-25 are newly added as set forth above. Support for features recited in Claim 21 can be found, for example, at paragraph [0023]. Claims 22 and 23 recite features recited in canceled Claims 18 and 19, respectively, and, therefore, are supported thereby. Support for Claim 24 can be found in paragraphs [0028]-[0029] and FIG. 6A, for example. Support for Claim 25 can be found in paragraphs [0028] and [0030] and FIG. 6B, for example. No new matter is added.

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Claims 21-25 depend from Claim 10 and, therefore, are not anticipated by the art of record for at least the reasons set forth in connection with Claim 10.

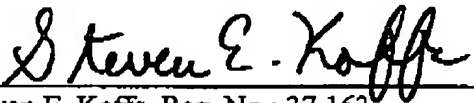
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any excess payment that may be associated with this communication to deposit account 04-1679.

Respectfully submitted,

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